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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/721,337

11/26/2003

Hidehiko Hori

2257-0239P

8371

2292

7590

05/27/2004

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EXAMINER

BLACKMAN, ROCHELLE ANN J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2851

DATE MAILED: 05/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/721,337

Applicant(s)

HORI, HIDEHIKO

Examiner

Rochelle Blackman

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/26/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shikama et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,634,570.

Regarding claim 1, Shikama discloses an "optical system"(see FIG. 5) configured to guide light emitted from a "lamp source"(see 21 of FIG. 5) to an "image display region"(see 70 of FIGS. 6A and 6C) of a "reflection type display device"(see 61 of FIG. 5) along a predetermined optical path, to reflect a light component for forming an image to be projected by said image display region of said reflection type display device and to project a reflected light component onto a "predetermined screen"(see SC of FIG. 5), wherein a "light guiding member for reflecting therein light"(see 30 of FIGS. 5, 6B, and 6D) entering through a "light entering surface"(see area of "light guiding member" 30 near element S1 in FIG. 5) several times to cause light having a uniform illumination distribution to outgo from a "light outgoing surface"(see 30B of FIG. 5) is inserted into an optical path between said lamp source and said reflection type display device, and "said light outgoing surface of said light guiding member is formed in a dissimilar shape with said image display region of said reflection type display device"(see 24 and 30 of FIGS.

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5, 6B, and 6D along with col. 11, lines 11-18), and a "region irradiated with light in said image display region is smaller than said image display region"(see 70, 73, and 74 of FIGS. 6A and 6C along with col. 11, lines 11-18).

Regarding claim 5, Shikama discloses a "projection type image display apparatus"(see FIG. 5) configured to guide light emitted from a "lamp source"(see 21 of FIG. 5) to an "image display region"(see 70 of FIGS. 6A and 6C) of a "reflection type display device"(see 61 of FIG. 5) along a predetermined optical path, to reflect a light component for forming an image to be projected by said image display region of said reflection type display device, and to project a reflected light component onto a "predetermined screen"(see SC of FIG. 5), wherein a "light guiding member for reflecting therein light"(see 30 of FIGS. 5, 6B, and 6D) entering through a "light entering surface"(see are of "light guiding member" 30 near element S1 in FIG. 5) several times to cause light having a uniform illumination distribution to outgo from a "light outgoing surface"(see 30B of FIG. 5) is inserted into an optical path between said lamp source and said reflection type display device, and "said light outgoing surface of said light guiding member is formed in a dissimilar shape with said image display region of said reflection type display device"(see 24 and 30 of FIGS. 5, 6B, and 6D along with col. 11, lines 11-18), and a "region irradiated with light in said image display region is smaller than said image display region"(see 70, 73, and 74 of FIGS. 6A and 6C along with col. 11, lines 11-18).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-4 and 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shikama et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,634,570 as applied to claims 1 and 5 above, and further in view of Takahashi, U.S. Patent No. 6,657,725.

Shikama discloses the claimed invention except for an optical system and/or projection type image display apparatus comprising a "light shielding member for shielding light passing outside" a "reflection surface"; "wherein said light shielding member is a light shielding plate provided independently of said light guiding member"; and "wherein said light shielding member is provided on an end face of said rectangular tube member".

Takahashi discloses a scanning projection exposure apparatus including a masking blade 7 and slit 6, provided in the optical axis, independent of beam shaping optical system 2 and optical integrator 3 and at exit areas thereof, that can change an illumination area width in the scanning direction, excluding a portion of this area (see FIG. 1 and abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a masking blade and slit in the optical axis, independent of, and at an exit area of the "light guiding member" of the Shikama reference, as taught

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by Takahashi in order to change the illumination area width of the "image display region", excluding a portion of the "image display region" in the Shikama reference.

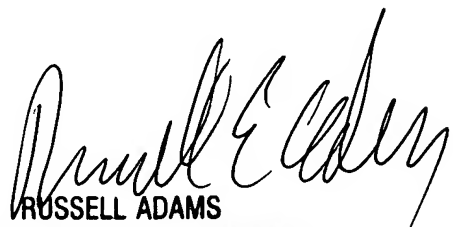
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rochelle Blackman whose telephone number is (571) 272-2113. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Russell Adams can be reached on (571) 272-2851. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

RB


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